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February 4, 1999

Donna Shalala  
Secretary  
Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, Southwest  
Washington, DC 20201

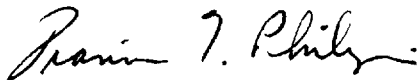
Re: Humane Farming Association v Donna Shalala & Gene Matthews  
Docket Number 99P-033/CP 1

Dear Secretary Shalala:

I would like your support of the Humane Farming Association v Donna Shalala, Dept. of Health and Human Services and Gene Matthews, Legal Advisor to CDC and ATSDR, Docket Number 99P-033/CP 1. A friend and coworker of mine died of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD). It was shocking to see someone die so quickly from an incurable disease. Shortly after my coworker's death, an obituary in our local newspaper listed the cause of death of a neighbor as CJD. Once I learned more about CJD, my husband and I eliminated red meat and anything including meat byproducts such as gelatin from our diets. While I can change my diet, I cannot change it for others including loved ones.

Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) are a human health threat. The requests in this petition will enable better testing, monitoring, reporting and maintaining information. Surveillance of the victims is also necessary.

Sincerely,



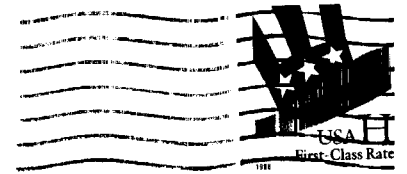
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